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Champaign, Ill.

BALANCE SHEET

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, DR.

to

CHAMPAIGN

and

SURROUNDING COMMUNITY, CR'S.

(A report of activities from June 1, 1921 to June 1, 1922)

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BALANCE SHEET

June 1, 1921 to June 1, 1922

LIABILITIES

ASSETS

(What the Community has told us to do)

(What we have done)

MAJOR PROGRAM

PLANK # 1

PLANK # 1

HOUSING - "Determine actual need for houses and, if situation demands action, devise methods and plans for encouraging building, giving consideration to best plans used in other cities."

The housing Committee consisting of V. W. Johnston, Chairman E. T. Leussler, F. M. Brown, O. K. Burton, and J. M. White, after a careful survey, discovered that the shortage of houses was not as great as it had been and that many were ready to build as soon as funds were available thru the various financial agencies.

This conclusion has been proved correct by the existing building activity of the present season.

PLANK # 2

PLANK # 2

DRAINAGE "Cooperate with City authorities in planning and carrying through to completion a surface drainage system adequate for present and future needs".

Pending completion of plans for adequate drainage, now being prepared by the City Engineer, no action has been taken on this plank.

PLANK # 3

PLANK # 3

PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS "Urge provision for additional playgrounds and equipment and the acquisition of a site for a large city park."

Work on this plank will spread over a number of years.

During the past twelve months the Parks and Playgrounds Committee has started a number of projects which will come to fruition at a later date. Among these are, first of all the outdoor swimming pool which is much needed by our city. The Chamber of Commerce is pledged to have the pool ready for use by the summer of 1923. Then there is the interest in Community Music that has been aroused, the Christmas sings; and the preparation of West End Park for autumn picnics.

Owing to the fact that an election to increase the park area of Champaign, which was called at about the time the Parks and Playgrounds Committee was named, failed to carry, the committee has not attempted to press the matter during the.

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past year. As stated above, the work on this plank will spread over a number of years. The work of increasing available park areas is on the program for the future.

The Committee: Mrs. Eleanor Bainum, Chairman, W. W. Stern, John VanDiew, Mrs. E. J. Lake, Wm. Harryman, F. C. Lohman, W. W. Earnest, Rev. R. F. Flynn, L. J. Powers, C. W. Groves, D. C. Condit, M. L. Hecker, Mrs. S. A. Power, Ernest C. Johnson, Angie Bailey.

PLANK # 4

STREET IMPROVEMENTS

"Promote ways and means for getting needed street paving repairs and extensions."

PLANK # 4

The city officials of Champaign have been proceeding with street improvements as rapidly as time and available funds will permit. On this account no special Committee has been appointed for this work.

A project for widening certain streets in the business district to care for increased motor traffic was given support thru a referendum on a report of our Auto Parking Committee.

This project was inaugurated by the city officials; but the referendum gave them reason to proceed with it more rapidly than they might otherwise have done.

PLANK # 5

CITY PLAN "Undertake to get adopted, in cooperation with the larger community, a definite city plan including a zoning scheme."

PLANK # 5

This proposition has been discussed in our Forum meetings and we have compiled a mass of information for the zoning Commission appointed some time ago by the City council.

PLANK # 6

Y. M. C. A. "Promote the organization of a city Y. M. C. A. together with adequate building for same."

PLANK # 6

No definite action has been taken on this plank during the past year.

PLANK # 7

GOOD ROADS "Promote the improvement of main roads leading into Champaign and cooperate with County and State authorities in carrying out their road programs."

PLANK # 7

Like Plank #3 this is an activity which will spread over a number of years.

The first activity of our Road Committee was the organization of the Champaign County Road Improvement Committee, a county wide organization with a representative in each township. The purpose of this committee is to aid the Board of Supervisors.

in carrying out its county road program. The work of the Supervisors and the committee is temporarily delayed pending the final location of certain of the State Bond Issue Roads. As soon as this matter is settled the work of giving Champaign County a real system of good roads should proceed rapidly.

The present work of the Roads Committee of the Chamber of Commerce is directed toward the earliest possible completion of the State Bond Roads.

The Roads Committee, C. C. Wiley Chairman, J. T. Boland, Vice-Chairman, H. T. Willis, H. M. Dunlap, J. C. Bowman, J. R. Boers, Howard Nash, and W. J. Dolan.

PLANK # 8

AUTO PARKING "Cooperate with City authorities in studying auto parking regulations in other cities and devising the best system for local needs."

PLANK # 8

The Auto Parking Committee consisting of Dr. F. A. Parker, Chairman, J. E. Pembroke, Geo. Franks, C. C. Wiley, L. A. Busch, and H. B. Boyer was the first committee appointed by the Board of Directors, and the first to report tangible evidence of its activities. Witness the excellent auto park on North Walnut Street, fenced for protection, and capable of accommodating 200 automobiles. In addition to providing parking space, an eyesore in the business district was removed.

Besides providing the park mentioned above, the committee made a study of parking conditions in the business district and made recommendations - among them being the widening of streets and the early installation of a lighting system to remove danger from theft. These are on a fair way to being carried out during the present year.

FORUM OR DISCUSSIONAL PROGRAM

PLANK # 1

TRADE AT HOME "Aid in awakening a greater appreciation of and loyalty to local trade advantages."

PLANK # 1

A dinner costing 39¢ per plate and attended by nearly 300 persons was made possible by dealers in food stuffs providing necessary articles. Donors names were printed on the programs. Trade At Home arguments were presented thru a pamphlet entitled "Try Champaign First - Nineteen Reasons".

PLANK # 2

UNION STATION "Give consideration to the erection of a Union Station and if found practical urge its completion as soon as possible."

PLANK # 3

STREET LIGHTING "Stimulate the development of an adequate and modern street lighting system."

PLANK # 4

UNIVERSITY AVENUE CROSSING "Present the need of a subway under the I. C. Tracks at University Avenue crossing to eliminate the danger there and relieve traffic congestion."

PLANK # 5

COMMUNITY BUILDING "Discuss the advisability and possibility of erecting a community house to serve as headquarters for recognized community activities and having an auditorium of sufficient size to accomodate conventions and other public gatherings."

PLANK # 6

COVERING HONEYARD CREEK- "Urge the necessity for covering the "Honeyard" and thus remove a health menace and an eyesore."

PLANK # 7

CITY BEAUTIFICATION "Aid all activities that will make Champaign a cleaner and more attractive city in which to live."

PLANK # 2

To date this project has not been discussed in the forum.

PLANK # 3

While this plank was not discussed in open forum, except as part of the report of the Auto Parking Committee, yet the result of a referendum on the committees report has justified the city officials in proceeding with the installation of a modern lighting system in the business district and other parts of the city.

PLANK # 4

No action has so far been taken on this plank.

PLANK # 5

While this project has not been discussed in the forum, and no definite action taken, it has been given consideration by both the Board of Directors and the Parks and Playgrounds Committee, and considerable data has been collected.

PLANK # 6

This is part of the city's drainage program and as such has been held in abeyance pending the completion of plans by the city officials.

PLANK # 7

Another Plank which has not been discussed but upon which action has been taken. Cooperating with other agencies, a Clean - Up campaign was carried out and data is now being collected for the organization of an anti-litter department as a follow up measure."

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PLANK # 8

COOPERATION "Promote a closer cooperation of all groups in the Community which will make a more contented citizenship."

PLANK # 9

NEW INDUSTRIES "Encourage the location here of proven plants and small industries which will develop and grow".

PLANK # 10

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC FIELD "Give attention to need for Athletic Field and equipment for High School."

PLANK # 11

SEWERAGE DISPOSAL "Stimulate interest in necessity for an adequate Sewage disposal plant"

PLANK # 8

While this project is another which has never been discussed, the officers of the Chamber of Commerce feel that there has never been a time when the organization has been in such high regard among all the people of the community, and when all were pulling together to make Champaign a better city in which to live as they are today. This has been brought about through the various activities of the organization and through the constantly reiterated statement of the officers that the Chamber of Commerce stands for the whole Community and not for any special class or group.

PLANK # 9

Though not discussed in open forum the Industries Committee consisting of E. K. Demlow, Chairman, A. L. Klank, A. D. Mulliken, J. C. Somers, and J. W. Lierman has investigated a number of prospective new industries and given what assistance it could to industries already located in the city.

The Nelson Concrete Culvert Company is a new addition during the past year.

PLANK # 10

No action has been taken on this plank.

PLANK # 11

Not discussed. A Sanitary District was organized by vote of the people at about the time this program was written. It remains to see that work on the district is not delayed unnecessarily.

ITEMS NOT IN PROGRAM OF WORK

PROJECT # 1

School Finances - A Committee consisting of T. E. Smith Chairman, Mrs. C. T. Alexander, Miss Sidner, R. A. Stipes, C. Kiser, L. L. Glenn, and A. C. Parris investigated the financial condition of the schools and published its report. The result was that the people of Champaign

voted an increase in the school tax rate sufficient to meet the present needs. This was done after a similar increase had twice before been voted down.

PROJECT # 2

COMMUNITY CHEST For several months past a committee consisting of Messrs I. M. Bilderback, H. W. Grant, H. W. Berks, E. S. Swigart has been studying the problem of coordinating the many drives for funds that occur each year in Champaign.

PROJECT # 3

PERMANENT STREET DECORATIONS The Chamber of Commerce joined with other organizations in the purchase of a set of permanent street decorations to be used when conventions are meeting in the city, and on similar occasions.

PROJECT # 4

RELATIONS WITH FARMERS "Messrs E. L. Murduck, M.H. McCown, P.H. Hughes, O. L. Percival, Ed. Hegenbart, S. E. Dillavou, J.E. Johnson, and V. W. Johnston known as the Agricultural Relations Committee, has given much time to the building up of more friendly relations between the rural population and the city. Speakers and entertainment have been provided for farmer's meetings and plans are being made for a big Farmers' Institute to be held in Champaign in October 1922.

In the foregoing balance Sheet we have given only the major activities of the organization. We believe that this is sufficient to show that the Chamber of Commerce has done its full duty and warrants the moral and financial support of all citizens of Champaign who are interested in the forward march of the city.

Very respectfully submitted to the Members of the Chamber of Commerce and others,

The Board of Directors

Wm. Everett Roberts, President
Leonard Lewis, Vice-President
J. T. Boland, Vice-President
J. E. Filson, Treasurer
Isaac Kuhn
N. M. Harris

F. O. Amsbary
H. J. Millard
W. D. Swearingen
C. A. Kiler
A. T. Walls
Albert Eisner, Jr.

Lloyd E. Lamkins
Secretary and Manager.

